(b) if so, whether the above report recommended that Panchayat elections at all the three tiers be not held on party basis;

(c) if so, whether Competent Authority accepts the above recommendations;

(d) is so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the steps taken to implement the recommendations of the above report?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The Task Force on Jurisprudence set up by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj has submitted its report. The report has recommended *inter alia* that panchayat elections at all the three tiers should not be held on a party basis.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. The report is under examination in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. *Prima facie*, this particular recommendation appears to fall outside the principle terms of reference of the Task Force.

Funds for PRIs in M.P. under Eleventh Finance Commission

†2964. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to recommendations of Eleventh Finance Commission an amount of Rs. 505.47 crore was to be released to Madhya Pradesh for three tier Panchayati Raj Institutions for the year 2000-01 to 2004-05;

(b) if so, the amount released out of the above said amount;

(c) by when the remaining amount would be released; and

(d) the reasons for non-release of entire amount?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) A sum of Rs. 454.91 crores was released to the Government of Madhya Pradesh upto 31.03.2005 by the Ministry of Finance, subject to the fulfillment of conditionalities attached to the release of grants and taking into account the pace of utilization of grants upto the prescribed

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

period. No further grants can be released as the award period of the Eleventh Finance Commission was over on 31.03.2005.

Non-appointment of Consultative Committee

†2965. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is not failure on the part of Government and Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for being not able to get ten members for appointing Consultative Committee of a Ministry;

(b) whether non-formation of the Consultative Committee of the Ministries does not amount to the disrespect and violation of parliamentary tradition; and

(c) the steps taken by Government so far in the direction of appointing the Consultative Committees of all Ministries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) No Sir. As per the Guidelines on the Constitution, functioning and procedures of Consultative Committees, membership of a Consultative Committee is voluntary and a member can be nominated to one Consultative Committee only. Consultative Committees of some Ministries could not be constituted because the required number of preferences were not received from Honourable Members of Parliament for the membership of these Committees.

(c) The Government has been continuing its efforts to constitute the Consultative Committees for all the Ministries. While inviting preferences for nomination in Consultative Committees from the Members or Leaders of their parties/Groups, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs has been requesting them to consider the Ministries for which no Consultative Committees exist.

Arrangements for MPs

†2966. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the protocol arrangements and priorities to be provided to Members of Parliament in the States in the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.